

Message Text

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USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 01498

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PGOV PINT HU UR
SUBJECT: NEW TIMES COMMENTS ON HUNGARIAN MODEL

1. SUMMARY: NOVOYE VREMYA CALLS HUNGARIAN MODEL OF SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION ATTRACTIVE AND FASCINATING AND SAYS IT FORMS PART OF SOCIALIST WORLD SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

2. ON APR 6, NEPSZABADSAG CARRIED A SUMMARY OF AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN LAST ISSUE OF SOVIET JOURNAL MOVOYE VREMYA ENTITLED: "WHAT IS THE TRUTH ABOUT THE 'HUNGARIAN MODEL?'" WE HAVE NOT SEEN ORIGINAL ARTICLE BUT LOCAL SOURCE WHO HAS ASSURES US SUMMARY WAS ACCURATE.

3. ARTICLE BY CORRESPONDENT VLADLEN KUSNETSOV, WHO RECENTLY VISITED HUNGARY, IS UNIFORMLY FAVORABLE TO HUNGARY
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NOT ONLY DISCUSSING HUNGARIAN MODEL IN POSITIVE TERMS BUT REFERRING TO SUCCESSES OF ECONOMIC REFORM. THERE FOLLOW SOME INTERESTING POINTS MADE BY KUSNETSOV.

4. THE ECONOMIC REFORM IN HUNGARY HAS MADE POSSIBLE THE MODERNIZATION OF THE STRUCTURE OF PRODUCTION.

IN HUNGARY, EFFECTIVE RELATIONS EXIST BETWEEN THE PARTY AND MASSES WHO THEREFORE EVEN ACCEPT UNPOPULAR OF EMERGENCY DECISIONS. KUSNETSOV CITED 1976 PRICE INCREASES IN THIS REGARD. KUSVETSOV WROTE THAT A HUNGARIAN MODEL EXISTS BUT NOT IN SENSE UNDERSTOOD BY WESTERN PAPERS. HUNGARY, ACCORDING TO HIM, CLEARLY ASSERTS THE GENERAL LAWS OF SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION IN EVERY RESPECT. COLLABORATION AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOCIALIST COMMUNITY ARE ALSO ESTEEMED. INTERNATIONALISM, KUSNETSOV CONTINUED, POSTULATES NOT ONLY THE STUDYING AND APPRECIATION OF THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO THE CONTRIBUTION OF ALL ON BASIS OF THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND EXPERIENCES. THE GENERAL LAWS OF SOCIALISM ARE INTERPRETED IN A PARTICULAR WAY IN EVERY COUNTRY, AND HUNGARY'S EXAMPLE CONFIRMS THIS. HUNGARIAN COMRADES ARE FAR FROM ABSOLUTIZING OR OVERRATING THEIR OWN ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXPERIENCES. THEY KEEP DOOR OPEN FOR EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE TAKEN OVER FROM OTHER PARTICIPANTS OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY IN THE COMMON CAUSE, KUSNETSOV AFFIRMED. "THE ATTRACTIVE AND FASCINATING 'HUNGARIAN MODEL' IS NOT AN ISOLATED BUILDING BUT FORMS PART OF WHAT WE CALL THE SOCIALIST WORLD SYSTEM."

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT HSWP IS PLEASED THAT NOVOYE VREMYA HAS SO CLEARLY PRAISED HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND THAT ITS CORRESPONDENT CAN ACCEPT AND DISCUSS THE "HUNGARIAN MODEL." IT IS RARE HERE WHEN THE HUNGARIANS EVEN PERMIT THEMSELVES THE USE OF THE TERM FOR THEY LIKE NEITHER TO BE SEEN AS TRYING TO INSTRUCT THE REST OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY NOR TO BE SEEN AS POSSIBLY DIVERGING TOO FAR FROM SOVIET EXPERIENCE. ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGABLE SOURCES IN HUNGARIAN PARTY AND NON-PARTY PRESS, HUNGARIANS DO NOT FEEL THAT KUSNETSOV ARTICLE IS DEFINITIVE SOVIET ENDORSEMENT OF SEPARATE PATH IMPLICATIONS OF HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC MODEL. RATHER THEY TAKE MORE MODEST, AND PROBABLY CORRECT VIEW, THAT ARTICLE MERELY MEANS THERE IS NO STRONG OPPOSITION AND CONSIDERABLE TOLERANCE FOR HUNGARIAN POLICIES SO FAR.

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